

**WE CLAIM:**

1. A dispensing apparatus including:
  - a barrel;
  - a plunger moveable between a first position and a second position within  
said barrel, a head of said plunger and an inner wall of said barrel  
together defining a chamber of variable volume wherein said volume is at  
a maximum when said plunger is in said first position and said volume is  
at a minimum when said plunger is in said second position;
  - at least one fluid inlet valve means operable to allow fluid to flow into said  
chamber when said volume increases;
  - at least one fluid outlet valve means operable to allow fluid to flow out of  
said chamber when said volume decreases;
  - biasing means to bias said plunger towards said first position;
  - plunger actuating means operable to actuate said plunger towards said  
second position; and
  - plunger damping means to decelerate said plunger when said plunger is  
moving towards said first position before said plunger reaches said first  
position.
2. The dispensing apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said plunger damping means  
includes a resilient element provided between said plunger and a body of  
said dispensing apparatus.
3. The dispensing apparatus of Claim 2, wherein said plunger damping  
means includes a resilient element provided between said head of said  
plunger and said body of said dispensing apparatus.
4. The dispensing apparatus of Claim 3 wherein said resilient element  
includes a substantially U shaped spring member.
5. The dispensing apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said damping means  
includes a spring member.
6. The dispensing apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said damping means is  
connectable to said plunger head.

7. The dispensing apparatus of Claim 1 wherein at least one of said first position and said second position is adjustable.

5 8. An animal health applicator including:

- a barrel;
- a plunger moveable between a first position and a second position within said barrel, a head of said plunger and an inner wall of said barrel together defining a chamber of variable volume wherein said volume is at a maximum when said plunger is in said first position and said volume is at a minimum when said plunger is in said second position;
- at least one fluid inlet valve means operable to allow fluid to flow into said chamber when said volume increases;
- at least one fluid outlet valve means operable to allow fluid to flow out of said chamber when said volume decreases;
- biasing means to bias said plunger towards said first position;
- plunger actuating means operable to actuate said plunger towards said second position; and
- plunger damping means to decelerate said plunger when said plunger is moving towards said first position before said plunger reaches said first position.

9. An animal health applicator including:

- a barrel;
- a plunger moveable between a first position and a second position within said barrel, a head of said plunger and an inner wall of said barrel together defining a chamber of variable volume wherein said volume is at a maximum when said plunger is in said first position and said volume is at a minimum when said plunger is in said second position;
- at least one fluid inlet valve means operable to allow fluid to flow into said chamber when said volume increases;
- at least one fluid outlet valve means operable to allow fluid to flow out of said chamber when said volume decreases;
- biasing means to bias said plunger towards said first position;
- plunger actuating means operable to actuate said plunger towards said second position; and

- a substantially U shape spring member connected to said head of said plunger to decelerate said plunger when said plunger is moving towards said first position before said plunger reaches said first position.